

During the construction of the Osage Hills golf course at Kirkwood a spring branch was tiled in. The snails which lived in the underground stream added this to their domain, where they frequently become dislodged and are washed out.

OXYSTYLA ON SANIBEL ISLAND, FLORIDA

BY WILLIAM J. CLENCH

Mr. G. J. Kissen introduced on his homestead on Sanibel Island in 1921, 4 specimens of *Oxystyla undata floridensis* Pils. that he had collected on Sandy Key, off Cape Sable, Florida. The colony is now quite large and extends over some two acres of trees that cover an Indian kitchen midden.

There are three points of interest relative to this introduction: (1) This colony has survived some 19 years of at least a normal temperature range, and though an extreme low temperature may kill the colony it can at least exist for a reasonable period considerably north of its northern natural limit (Marco Island, 45 miles to the south). (2) This may indicate that the present natural distribution in Florida may possibly be incomplete and that, by mechanical means, the genus could have spread and possibly survive over a much larger territory than it now occupies, and that the present distribution may then be indicative of a rather late introduction. In Florida, *Oxystyla* is found on Lower Matecumbe Key southwest to the Key West group of islands and on the mainland in the vicinity of Cape Sable and north as far as Marco Island. So far as known, it is limited only to a very narrow coastal strip on the mainland and on a few of the lower Keys between the two named above. (3) The present Sanibel colony perpetuates one that is now extinct (?) on Sandy Key. We visited this small island in 1933 and found that the hurricanes of the few years before had destroyed nearly all of the vegetation. The trees had completely disappeared and only a small patch of brush and grass remained. No dead shells were to be found.

I may add a note that on the same trip we failed to find any live specimens of this species on Pavilion Key, which lies some 30 miles to the southeast of Cape Romano, though a few dead speci-

mens were found after considerable search. Scrub was fairly thick and high and no natural reason appeared to us for their extermination.

Mr. Kissen has just introduced on his hammock land *Liguus* that he had obtained from Long Pine Key in the south central Everglades. It will be of considerable interest to see if these manage to survive on Sanibel.

ANOTHER PLEISTOCENE SNAIL IS NOT EXTINCT

BY J. P. E. MORRISON¹

In the course of cataloguing the Shimek Collection of Loess fossil shells and the recent shells included in that collection, acquired in 1937 by the United States National Museum, one unfamiliar lot of specimens was seen. The distinct differences of this lot of *Discus*, with a high, dome-shaped spire, and an almost smooth base of the body whorl, stuck in the mind as such things will, until that puzzle suddenly resolved itself two years later. Upon reading the description of *Discus macclintocki* (F. C. Baker), NAUTILUS 41: 133, 1927; also: Journ. Paleont. 5: 281, 1931, known from many localities in Illinois and Iowa as a Pleistocene Loess fossil, the "peculiar" lot of specimens was immediately recalled.

These specimens (U.S.N.M. No. 505741), collected *alive* by Shimek on September 8, 1928, from under a decaying White Birch log, in Bixby State Park, Clayton Co., Iowa, prove to be recent individuals of *Discus macclintocki* (F. C. Baker). These Iowa specimens are evenly horn-colored, as in *D. c. anthonyi* (Pils.). There is no trace of the basal callus within the aperture, nor of the reddish color present in *D. patula* (Desh.).

Shimek's discovery of a living colony of *Discus macclintocki* places this species in the category of *Hendersonia occulta*, known for years only as a Loess fossil. This discovery of *D. macclintocki*, identical in the recent fauna with the Pleistocene form, also removes any possibility that it may have been ancestral to *Discus patula* (Desh.). The two were and are co-existent, neither ancestral to the other.

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